

wounded soldier. They may face new temporary housing costs or added expenses just to live nearby and support in the soldier's recovery.

Thanks to action in our Armed Services Committee, there is a provision to continue some of the specialty pays for imminent danger for our wounded soldiers as long as they are in the hospital. The House Defense authorization includes a similar provision that creates a new pay provision specifically for rehabilitation from combat-related injuries.

I support such provisions, and in fact, I introduced S. 461, the Crosby-Puller Combat Wounds Compensation Act, to maintain full pay for soldiers during recovery. I was proud to have Senators KENNEDY, CLINTON, and SALAZAR as co-sponsors.

My commitment to this legislation was based on hearing the plight of wounded soldiers. My West Virginia caseworkers have heard from many soldiers and families who are struggling. While everyone is tragically aware of the more than 2,000 soldiers, including 15 West Virginians, who have lost their lives, we do not hear as much about our wounded soldiers.

Current estimates are that 16,220 soldiers have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, and 104 are West Virginians. Thanks to better medical care and better equipment, when it is available, our soldiers are surviving devastating attacks, but too often at high costs including the loss of limbs. Such soldiers face long recoveries, and they need their families nearby to support them. But there are extra costs for families at this time, and we should not be substantially reducing the pay of our wounded heroes.

As the conference committee is appointed and we begin the hard work of resolving the differences between these two bills, I hope that we will keep in mind the struggles and financial hardships of our wounded soldiers and their families. We need to provide them with adequate pay in honor of their distinguished service.

MORNING BUSINESS

TRIBUTE TO MR. HENRY OSCAR WHITLOW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I today honor the life of a prominent Kentuckian, Mr. Henry Oscar Whitlow, and to pay tribute to the numerous contributions he made to his community and to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

A native of Ballard County, KY, Mr. Whitlow spent his professional life practicing law in Paducah. In addition to being a respected attorney, he was also an active member of the Broadway United Methodist Church, and served as President of the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, the Paducah Jaycees, and the Paducah Rotary Club.

People like Henry Whitlow are what make Kentucky such a special place. I

extend my condolences to his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth Ann Clement Whitlow, his son Mark Whitlow, his daughter Rebecca Guthrie, and all those that mourn the passing of this great man.

Earlier this week the Paducah Sun marked the passing of this community icon in a piece titled, "Whitlow remembered for community contributions." I ask that the full article be printed in the RECORD and that the entire Senate join me in paying our respect to this beloved Kentuckian.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Paducah Sun, Nov. 8, 2005]
WHITLOW REMEMBERED FOR COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS
(By Bill Bartleman)

Henry Oscar Whitlow was remembered Monday as soft-spoken and unassuming, but strong and powerful in his contribution to the community and the legal profession.

Whitlow, 91, died at 5:42 a.m. Monday at Lourdes hospital. His son, Mark Whitlow, said he had suffered from Alzheimer's and had been in a nursing home since last year.

Visitation will be held at the Milner and Orr Funeral Home of Paducah from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday. Services will be at Broadway United Methodist Church in Paducah at 1:30 p.m. Friday followed by burial in Mount Kenton Cemetery.

Whitlow, a native of Monkey's Eyebrow in Ballard County, began practicing law in Paducah in 1937 with the Waller and Threlkeld law firm. He eventually became a partner and the firm is now known as Whitlow Roberts Houston and Straub. It is one of Paducah's largest and most prestigious firms.

He was a member of Broadway United Methodist Church for almost 70 years and held every leadership position in the church. He also was a lay speaker and a Sunday School teacher.

He also was active in civic affairs and served as president of what is now the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, the Paducah Rotary Club, the Paducah Jaycees and many other organizations.

Senior U.S. District Judge Edward H. Johnstone described Whitlow as a leader with humility, a litigator with compassion and a scholar with the common touch.

"He was a great man," Johnstone said. "The thing that distinguished him from present-day lawyers is that he built his reputation by what he did, not how much he advertised or blew his own horn. His work is what sold him to the public. He never sought glory or credit. He was unselfish and always a perfect gentleman."

U.S. District Judge Thomas Russell said Whitlow had a profound effect on those around him. Russell was associated with Whitlow's firm for almost 25 years.

Without Whitlow as a mentor, Russell said he would have never risen to the federal judgeship. "You can learn the practice of law from a lot of people, but he taught me what it takes to represent people—to feel their sorrow, their joys and their concerns."

Whitlow served as the attorney for the Paducah Board of Education for more than 40 years. Bill Black Jr., a long-time board member, said Whitlow viewed his work with the board as public service. "The fees he charged were not what he could get investing his time in other legal work," Black said.

He said Whitlow never tried to influence board decisions and only got involved when he thought the board was straying in the wrong legal direction.

"He listened very carefully and said very little," Black said. "But when he did speak, we always knew it was our time to listen to his wisdom and take his advice."

Black noted that Whitlow was the board attorney in 1956 when the city schools were integrated. He said Whitlow's legal advice undoubtedly played an important role in the successful and peaceful integration that had been mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Many schools in the South started integrating in the 1st grade and did it over 12 years," Black said. "Paducah allowed any African American who wanted to attend a previously all-white school to do it in the first year."

Away from the legal profession, Russell said Whitlow set an example of how a person should be a good citizen. In addition to being a church leader, Russell said Whitlow was active in the Boy Scouts, charitable work "and was past president of the Rotary Club and every other civic organization that he belonged to. 'In all that he ever did, he didn't seek any kind of recognition.'"

Mark Whitlow, also an attorney, said his father was an inspiration.

"We all love our fathers," Whitlow said. "But he also was an outstanding mentor in terms of being a scholar of the law and in his love for the community and public service. He set a good example for all of us."

Fred Paxton, chairman of the board of Paxton Media which owns the Paducah Sun, said Whitlow's slight frame and soft voice were deceiving.

"He was a very rugged individual and very, very strong," Paxton said. "If you exchange a hand shake with him, you knew that. He also had a delightful sense of humor. It was very low key and subtle, but rich."

In 1993 Whitlow was honored as the Kentucky Bar Association's "Lawyer of the Year."

He was humbled by the honor. "It was like a bolt out of the blue," he told the Paducah Sun. "I still don't know how the lightning happened to strike me. I am just an old country boy who came up in the Depression."

In addition to his son, Whitlow is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth Ann Clement Whitlow; a daughter, Rebecca Guthrie of Maryland; a sister, Mildred Hughes of Tucson, Ariz., and two grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MR. EVERETT RAINS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I pay tribute to a great leader in public service, Mr. Everett Rains. Everett served as county clerk in Whitley County, KY, for 24 years. I first met him when I started my political career in Kentucky, more than two decades ago. Everett was known for his numerous acts of kindness and generosity. He inspired others to serve, including his own nephew Tom Rains, who succeeded him as Whitley County clerk.

Last month, Everett passed away at the age of 88. He spent his career serving the people of Whitley County, and will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

On October 26, 2005, The Williamsburg News Journal published an article highlighting Everett's contributions, caring nature, and strong character. I ask that the full article be printed in the RECORD and that the entire Senate join me in paying our respect to this beloved Kentuckian.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: